

# State Developmental Centers

## Mission

To provide quality support services to individuals with developmental disabilities aimed at ensuring each individual develops and lives to their greatest potential, in the least restrictive setting possible.

## Summary of Activities



Through the Division of Disability, Aging, and Rehabilitative Services (DDARS) of the Family and Social Services Administration, the Bureau of State Operated Services (BSOS) provides direction and oversight to the Fort Wayne State Developmental Center and the Muscatatuck State Developmental Center, and plays a pivotal role in the design and implementation of regional services programs.

In July, 2003, the two state developmental centers (SDCs) served approximately 426 adults with developmental disabilities. The residents are severely or profoundly mentally retarded or have severe anti-social behavior that is considered to be dangerous to themselves or others. The residents also typically have secondary disabilities such as mental illness, cerebral palsy,

epilepsy, visual impairments, and hearing impairments. Only 51 individuals have been placed in the SDCs since January 1999, while 376 have moved to community settings. The residents receive long-term services at the SDCs; however, the focus for all residents is to re-enter community services when appropriate.

The SDC transition teams work closely with all pertinent parties in conducting person-centered planning meetings with consumers, families, and advocates to ensure appropriate services are provided as well as effective conversion/transition processes are in place to address planned moves to community-based settings and institutional admissions.

## External Factors

The attention of federal funding and oversight continues to emphasize that meaningful, continuous treatment is provided for each client served at an SDC and that health and safety standards are met. There is also increased federal focus on deinstitutionalization. Approximately every six months a large congregate facility closes in the United States. Both facilities require expert planning and design as well as

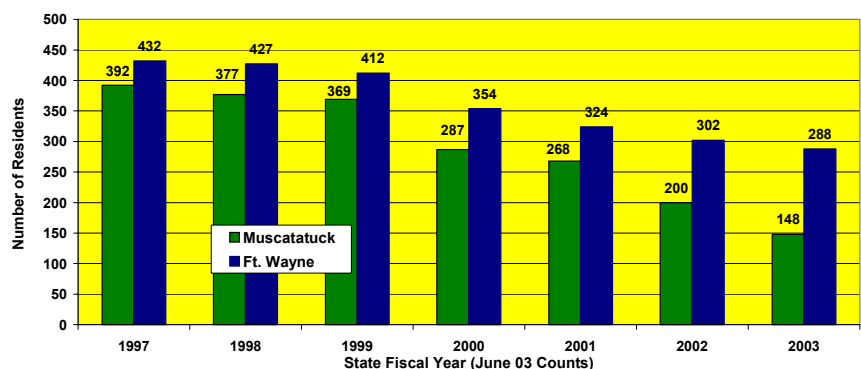
appropriate resources to ensure compliance and meet federal expectations. This federal oversight coincides with the state's unending commitment to assure quality services are provided to the developmentally disabled.

Since June 1994 nearly 1000 individuals with developmental disabilities have moved from large intermediate care facilities for the mentally retarded (ICFs/MR) into more individualized integrated community-based settings where they have an opportunity to experience a greater quality of life. Currently, four additional private facilities are in the process of closing, thereby moving an additional 254 individuals into community-based settings.

## Evaluation and Accomplishments

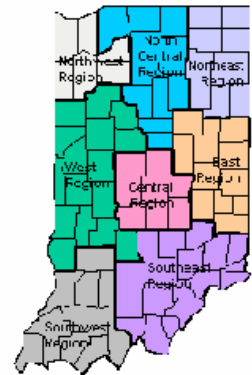
At both Muscatatuck and Fort Wayne State Development Centers, the entire service delivery system has been redesigned to address federal certification issues and Department of Justice expectations.

**Number of Residents at Muscatatuck and Ft. Wayne State Developmental Centers**



With the closing of New Castle Developmental Center and Northern Indiana State Developmental Center in the late 1990s, over 200 people successfully entered community settings. In addition, 376 individuals have transitioned into community settings from Muscatatuck and Fort Wayne Developmental Centers since January 1999. Only 13 of these individuals required readmission to a facility. This 3.5% recidivism rate is very low compared to other states.

The Regional Planning Councils within the southeast, central, and northeast regions of Indiana continue to meet regularly to fine-tune plans for the provision of regional services, which will provide a continuum of services from facility-based to community-based, and that will identify and fill the gaps in services that are lacking in the local communities. Construction is currently underway on the new Southeast Regional Center on the grounds of Madison State Hospital, where short-term hospitalization will be possible for those experiencing difficulties in the community. Outreach services will be a component of this service delivery system, and will provide preventative and proactive technical assistance, consultation, and training to enhance community services and backup supports.



## Plans for the Biennium

DDARS has initiated a comprehensive plan for the downsizing of both state developmental centers. The plan will be implemented during the biennium to continue the trend toward community-based services for all that can live safely in the community of their choosing. The division will continue to develop and implement consistent operational practices at both state developmental centers to insure the aggressive provision of training to develop the skills and abilities of residents and to protect their health and safety. Person-centered planning, service plan development, behavior management, inclusion, medical services, and adaptive equipment are factors addressed in the plan.

Regional outreach services have begun on a limited basis in the southeast region. DDARS will continue to expand the outreach component of regionalization throughout the state. This is paramount to the successful downsizing of the SDCs.

